

by Providence allowed to protect and fight for their God given rights.

The American ideal is the revolutionary thought that it is not by government, nor wealth, nor any human intervention that people have rights, but by the divine power of God. And it is for this very reason that we have been uniquely and divinely blessed thus far in our pursuits as a nation. It is my firm belief that it was no man, but God Himself who turned the tide of the American revolution. Through a myriad of miracles, lives improbably saved, and weather, God lead an army of untrained and largely uneducated patriots to the most unlikely victory in all of human history. God's plan for America was vested in the very foundation of its ideals and laws. The American ideal acknowledges the fact that "All men are created equal" and that "They are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights". The American ideal puts the liberty and responsibility of preserving life, enjoying liberty, and the pursuit of happiness on the people of a nation. In turn the government respects those rights and protects them. It is made clear in the American Ideal that these certain rights; among them being free speech, freedom of religion, freedom to keep and bear arms, privacy from government intervention and the right to a fair trial and fair treatment throughout any judicial proceedings, among others; are not capable of being given or taken away at the hands of any man but given by God alone in His mercies and through the provision of death of Jesus Christ.

The American Ideal is one, and governmentally the only one, that is constructed in a way that can glorify God. It is for this reason that God has supported this great American experiment. It is my unfavorable duty at this point to note that the governmental body of these United States has long strayed from this ideal and its purpose. Through centuries of corruption and societal changes, some of which were necessary and some of which were orchestrated by the enemy to divide our people, American society has forgotten its foundation in Providence. The government, which is now lead by a people who are led by partisan politics, is a shell of what it used to and rightly should be. The leaders of this nation have taken to voting only for what they believe will get them re-elected. Worse than that, some leaders in this nation have decided to vote in accordance with whatever will oppose God's Truth and the Providential American Ideal. The enemy has not only taken hold in the government but in all aspects of the American life. Business, entertainment, and even many churches have fallen short of God's plan for this nation. Wealthy and vicious people now monopolize almost all forms of communication and consumers allow themselves to be silenced. Churches no longer speak Gods Truth, but pander to a modern audience that insists upon the acceptance and glorification of sin. The doctrines of free speech and religion have been distorted and abused in a way that benefits those who are against the common people. The poor are intentionally kept down for the political gain of those who oppress them most. And the enemy, with his many minions in this world are attempting to erase God's name from the societal conscience of Americans.

The hope that we may all hold to is in this verse "If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and I will heal their land." 2 Chronicles 7:14. We the people, who believe in the American Ideal by nature are God's people. We must take heed, not only of the hope held in this verse but also of the ef-

fort that we must put in to achieve this goal. We must humble ourselves. We must not be blinded by our pride, in ourselves, our party affiliation, or in our own ideas. Conversely, we must humble ourselves and ask only what God would have us do, think, say, or vote. We must seek God's plan for us and our nation through prayer, and we must be vigilant in this effort. We must pray for forgiveness for our collective sins, and we must turn from those things which we hold dear that we know are not morally right. We must turn both from personal sin and do all we can to hinder our national sins. If we are to hold onto the nation that we love, and properly protect the American Ideal we must, as a people, place our faith in the sole Almighty God of Israel and America.

While it appalls and amazes me that there are those that do not hold this nation and this Ideal the way I do, I often feel that there are a precious few that see the American Ideal the way I do. In recent times many of those who claim the title of patriot are unwilling to give up even the smallest convenience to divest power from those who seek to oppress us. Our forefathers, and in fact many influential women of the American Revolution began their revolution by giving up their dearest luxuries. It may not seem so dear a cost to us now to give up the drinking of tea, but what if Amazon Prime was put in that place? How many are truly willing to give up something, never mind everything to make the American Ideal once again thrive? And, while there is much explosive drivel strewn across the internet about patriotism, I challenge the reader to find a single person who is both unwilling to stop buying from Google and willing to give their very life for the cause.

Nevertheless, this is written not to discourage the truly American people but to bring them hope. The essence of America is within the hearts and minds of those who know and believe the American Ideal. The belief in God given freedoms, personal liberty and the responsibilities therein, and the truth that any man can become successful when the proper work is put in; that is the American Ideal. And this Ideal can not be lost, it can not be altered, and it can not be destroyed. No matter how hard the enemy tries, he can not destroy what God has created and blessed. The battle is won against the Washington oligarchy, against the immoral CEOs, against those who seek to silence us, against the bitter hatred among brothers, against the sex culture, against drug culture, against Satan himself. It is done. Therefore, I urge the reader to get on your knees tonight and pray over this nation. Pray with confidence in the One you are speaking to. Pray for the leaders of our churches, schools, and government. Pray over what roll God has for you in the next chapter of this American experiment, put on the armor of Christ and stand prepared for the coming battle.—Elizabeth S. Bradley

PRESERVING HOME AND OFFICE NUMBERS IN EMERGENCIES ACT OF 2021

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 2021

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 678, the PHONE Act, a simple but powerful bill to ensure that Americans who lose their homes in natural disasters do not also lose their home phone numbers.

Last year, the CZU Lightning Complex Fire burned 86,509 acres in my Congressional District, making it the 12th most destructive fire in California history. Seventy-seven thousand of my constituents were evacuated, and the fire destroyed nearly 1,500 homes, businesses, and other buildings.

This figure includes nearly 1,000 families in my district who couldn't return home because their home was destroyed. The PHONE Act helps these families and thousands of other American families who lose their homes in wildfires and other disasters.

The PHONE Act has three parts. First, if the President issues a major disaster declaration and a governor designates a disaster area, phone numbers in that designated area cannot be reassigned for one year. Second, if someone in the disaster area needs more than a year, they can get a one-year extension because rebuilding can take years. Third, the bill allows consumers to cancel phone service without a cancellation fee if their home is inaccessible or uninhabitable. The bill also prohibits resubscription fees if consumers get phone service somewhere else in the area.

Some may ask why we need all of this for a simple phone number. One of the first things parents teach their children is their phone number. Many of us still remember our parents' home phone numbers. While many are opting to live with just cellphones, it's important to consider who depends on landlines: older Americans and retirees who often have multiple doctors, caregivers, and loved ones using long-held phone numbers.

Congressman MIKE THOMPSON authored the bill to help the survivors of the Atlas and Tubbs fires that ravished his Congressional District in 2017. Thousands lost their homes and were further frustrated to learn they also lost their phone number, because phone companies had given the numbers away.

The bill is carefully drafted to plug a small gap in the law, but this gap means the world to our constituents for whom this bill is written to protect.

Last Congress, the bill was marked up on March 10, 2020, by the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology and on September 9, 2020, by the full Energy & Commerce Committee. At both markups, I offered amendments to ensure the bill would have broad, bipartisan support and would be as effective as possible. On September 29, 2020, the House passed the bill by voice vote. Sadly, the Senate did not consider the measure.

I urge my House colleagues to pass this bill once again and urge the Senate to take it up and pass the bill as well.

RECOGNIZING STEPHEN KLEIN FOR NEARLY 30 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE STATE OF VERMONT

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2021

Mr. WELCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor my friend Stephen Klein, who is retiring from his job as Chief Fiscal Officer to the Vermont State Legislature. Stephen joined the staff of the Vermont Legislature in 1992 as a Fiscal Analyst and, in

1993, was appointed Chief Fiscal Officer. The nonpartisan Joint Fiscal Office provides fiscal analysis, budget evaluation, performance oversight and fiscal policy support for the Appropriations, Finance, Ways & Means and Tax Committees and for the Vermont Legislature as a whole. In his capacity as Chief Fiscal Officer, Stephen has directed the budget and tax staff for the Vermont House and Senate for the past 28 years.

With rapid fire speech, Stephen has educated generations of Vermont legislators on the complexities of the Vermont budget process. As President Pro Tempore of the Vermont Senate, I had the pleasure of working with Stephen to craft budgets for the State of Vermont and, like many before and after me, marveled at his intricate knowledge of Vermont state government, tax policy, the budget, and the economy. Stephen has gained the trust of legislators through his facility with his subject matter and his generous willingness to explain it.

Stephen's contributions have extended beyond Vermont. He served as president of the National Association of Legislative Fiscal Offices in 1998 to 1999 and was a member of National Conference of State Legislatures' Executive Committee from 2002 to 2005. From 2009 to 2017, Stephen served on the Advisory Board of the New England Public Policy Center at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, providing advice on research content and direction to policy makers in the New England region. From 2014 to 2017 Stephen served on the Government Accounting Standards Advisory Committee.

In 2013, Stephen was the recipient of the Steven D. Gold Award, given annually by the National Tax Association, the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM), and the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL). The 2013 award was presented by the NCSL. The award honors professionals who have made significant contributions to state and local fiscal policy.

In addition to his professional commitments, Stephen has volunteered tirelessly in his community, serving on the board of the local food cooperative in Montpelier, as Treasurer of the Green Mountain Club, and as Treasurer for the local synagogue. Stephen also serves as a guest lecturer at the Vermont Law School.

Mr. Klein attended the University of California, Berkeley; Massachusetts Institute of Technology; and Northeastern University School of Law. He served in the Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic and Honduras in the early 1970s.

Stephen's friendly demeanor, sage observations and ubiquitous presence have made him a well-known and welcome fixture under the Golden Dome. He will be greatly missed. I wish him all the best in his retirement and look forward to seeing him out on Vermont's hiking trails.

HONORING DWANA BRADLEY

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2021

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dwana Bradley as Iowan of the Week. Dwana is a mother, a business owner, an ed-

ucator, and a long-time community advocate. She believes education is the key to life, which speaks to her passion and career as a teacher.

Dwana received a bachelor's degree in child and family services from Iowa State University, a master's degree in elementary education and literacy from Drake University, and a specialist's degree in administration. She went on to graduate from the Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute, and for almost seven years she worked as a reading interventionist with Des Moines Public Schools (DMPS) to help students reach their potential. In 2019, she was elected to the Des Moines School Board and currently serves as the chair of the board.

Dwana did not let the COVID-19 pandemic slow her drive to educate young Iowans. As chairwoman, she serves in an outreach role to help underserved communities attain higher education and is working to stem the negative impact of COVID-19 on students, especially those who were already struggling in school or falling behind.

Dwana also owns Iowa Urban Media, a community-focused publishing company, and is the editor-in-chief for the Urban Experience Magazine, a monthly publication that shares news in the African American community and seeks to empower voices through positivity. Her journalism promotes education, an open dialogue, and a space to have important conversations about issues affecting Iowans. She passionately believes that these conversations are a crucial step towards achieving justice.

In addition to her commendable career in education, Dwana is an active advocate. She is the executive director of Iowa Juneteenth and chairs a committee for Iowa Juneteenth Observance, volunteers on the DMPS attendance committee, and still makes time to direct the choir at True Bible Baptist Church.

As executive director of Iowa Juneteenth and chair on a committee for Iowa Juneteenth Observance, she helps put on events, educate the public, and celebrate with Iowans across the state for the annual commemoration of Juneteenth: the date the last enslaved African Americans were granted freedom in 1865, ending slavery in the United States. Just this week, Congress finally passed a bill to formally recognize Juneteenth National Independence Day as a federal holiday after decades of activism from Americans.

As we recently gathered to observe Juneteenth and join in community celebrations and educational events, let us thank Dwana and her team for their efforts to bring Iowans together to share stories, experiences, and history with one another. She is a fantastic educator, a proud voice in the community, and a fervent advocate for uplifting Iowans. Please join me in honoring Dwana Bradley as our Iowan of the Week.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRIAN J. MAST

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2021

Mr. MAST. Madam Speaker, my flight into Washington, D.C. was delayed due to bad weather causing me to miss a vote on 7/19/2021. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 209.

REMEMBERING JASON G. THOMAS

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2021

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Jason G. Thomas for his ten years of service with the House's Office of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Logistics & Support. It is with a heavy heart that I share the news that he passed away in September 2020 at the young age of forty. Jason was a constituent of mine from Maryland's Fifth District.

Jason began his career with the CAO in January 2015, joining the Logistics & Support group responsible for moving furniture and carrying out the massive effort every two years of moving offices during the Congressional transition. Prior to his time with the CAO, Jason worked with District Movers, where he gained a strong understanding of logistics and organization, which served him well in his House employment.

Among his many hobbies, Jason had a love of acting, he enjoyed mechanics, he was an avid football fan, and he proved a very talented drummer. He was a graduate of the Massanutten Military Academy. Jason's co-workers and friends remember him for his infectious smile and incessant positive attitude. Some of the sentiments they shared after he passed away included that: 'He was always smiling,' and 'What a great guy.' Also: 'He would always greet you with a smile and a hello and was such a light to be around.'

Prior to his death, Jason was being recognized for his exceptional service while confronting the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. He was tasked with helping to assist with the enormous job of processing the distribution of thousands of laptops and electronics to House Members and staff who were suddenly required to work remotely. The Asset Management Department specifically requested Jason by name, not only because of his talent but also because of his sunny disposition and positive attitude while performing his duties. He was soon to be recognized for his contribution to this effort by former Chief Administrative Officer Phil Kiko.

Jason lived in Clinton, Maryland, and is survived by his parents, Henry and Idena Thomas, his three sisters—Sonya, Tanya, and Yolanda—and his three young children, fourteen-year-old Kason, thirteen-year-old Juarez, and ten-year-old Karen.

Madam, Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Jason G. Thomas for his service and contributions to this House. I want to extend my heartfelt condolences to, the Thomas family for their tremendous loss. The gifts of Jason's life and his tremendous dedication to service, family, and community will always be remembered.

HONORING COMMISSIONER DEAN COX

HON. CHRIS STEWART

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2021

Mr. STEWART. Madam Speaker, I rise to include in the RECORD a letter signed by the